Export target for current fiscal

182. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the export target set by Government for the current financial year;

(b) the country's export to different countries up to February, 2005, country-wise and commodity-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the country's export is growing very fast;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to increase the country's exports in the world market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) A target of US $ 75 billion of exports has been fixed for the current financial year.

(b) The latest available data on exports by major countries and principal commodities for April-October, 2004-05 provided by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata is as follows:

India's Exports Up To October 2005: Country Wise & Commodity Wise

(in US $ Million)

Country wise		Commodity wise	
Country	Apr.Oct 04-05	Commodities	Apr.-Oct 04-05
1. USA	7650.28	1. Engg. Goods	7516.95
2. UAE	3544.51	2. Gems & Jewellery	7417.59
3. China PRP	2002.19	3. Textiles	6917.38
4. UK	1963.16	4. Chemicals & Related products	6479.78
5. Hongkong	1958.72	5. Petroleum Products	3635.22
6. Singapore	1893.60	6. Agri. & Allied Products	2949.22
7. Germany	1435.83	7. Ores & Minerals	1966.78
8. Belgium	1361.33	8. Leather & Manufactures	1279.94
9. Italy	1080.88	9. Electronic Goods	983.03
10. Japan	1010.06	10. Marine Products	661.55

(c) and (d) Exports have registered a high growth of 25.55% in dollar terms during April-January, 2004-05 as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

(e) A new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) was announced in August, 2004 with the objective of doubling India's share of global merchandise trade within the next five years. Some of the key strategies adopted in the FTP include; simplification of procedures, reduction in transaction cost, neutralisation of incidence of all levies and duties on Inputs used for exports, Identification of special focus areas like agriculture, handlooms, handicraft, gems and jewellery, leather and footwear for further promotion. In addition, Export Promotion Schemes like 'Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojna' (Special Agricultural Produce Scheme) and 'Target Plus' have been introduced to further accelerate growth of exports.

Setting up of Retail Economic Zones

183. SHRI RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Retail Economic Zones on the lines of SEZs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the representatives of the retailers in the country are demanding for having a separate economic zone for retail goods; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN) (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No proposal has been received from the representatives of the retailers for setting up a separate economic zone for retail goods.